

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.       A method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 comprising:

3           receiving a file by the application from a user system, wherein the file contains  
4           standardized interface data;

5           providing the file to the service;

6           generating a return file by the service, wherein the return file contains standardized  
7           interface data;

8           providing the return file to the application; and

9           providing the return file to the user system.

1           2.       The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 1 wherein the return file is presented as a browser interface.

1           3.       The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 1 further comprising:

3           generating a dynamic user interface specification by the service;

4           providing the dynamic user interface specification to application;

5           generating a user interface response by the application; and

6           providing the user interface response to the service.

1           4.       The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 3 wherein the return file is presented as a browser interface.

1           5.       The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 3 wherein the user system determines content of the user interface response.

1           6.       The method of establishing an interface between a service and an application  
2 of claim 5 wherein the return file is presented as a browser interface.

1           7.       The method of establishing an interface between a service and application of  
2 claim 3 wherein the user interface specification and user interface response are written in a  
3 markup language.

1           8.       The method of establishing an interface between a service and application of  
2 claim 4 wherein the user interface specification and user interface response are written in a  
3 markup language.

1           9.       The method of establishing an interface between a service and application of  
2 claim 5 wherein the user interface specification and user interface response are written in a  
3 markup language.

1           10.      The method of establishing an interface between a service and application of  
2 claim 6 wherein the user interface specification and user interface response are written in a  
3 markup language.

1           11.      A system for establishing an interface comprising of:  
2 a user system;  
3 an application that receives a file the user system, wherein the file contains  
4 standardized interface data; and  
5 a service that receives the file and generates a return file containing standardized  
6 interface data, sending the return file to the application and the user system.

1           12.      The system for establishing an interface of claim 11 wherein the return file is  
2 presented as a browser interface.

1           13.      The system for establishing an interface of claim 11 further comprised of:  
2 a dynamic user interface specification generated by the service, wherein the dynamic  
3 user interface specification is provided to the application; and  
4 a user interface response generated by the application; wherein the user interface  
5 response is provided to the service.

1           14.      The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 13 wherein the  
2 return file is presented as a browser interface.

1           15.      The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 13 wherein the user  
2 system determines content of the user interface response.

1 16. The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 15 wherein the  
2 return file is presented as a browser interface.

1 17. The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 13 wherein the user  
2 interface specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1 18. The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 14 wherein the user  
2 interface specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1 19. The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 15 wherein the user  
2 interface specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1 20. The system for establishing an interface of claim of claim 16 wherein the user  
2 interface specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1 21. A computer system comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a computer;  
4 computer readable medium coupled to the processor; and  
5 computer code encoded in the computer readable medium, configured to cause the processor  
6 to:  
7 receive a file by the application from a user system, wherein the file contains  
8 standardized interface data;  
9 provide the file to the service;  
10 generate a return file by the service, wherein the return file contains standardized  
11 interface data;  
12 provide the return file to the application; and  
13 provide the return file to the user system.

1 22. The computer system of claim 21 wherein the return file is presented as a  
2 browser interface.

1        23.    The computer system of claim 21 wherein the processor further:  
2        generates a dynamic user interface specification by the service;  
3        provides the dynamic user interface specification to application;  
4        generates a user interface response by the application; and  
5        provides the user interface response to the service.

1        24.    The computer system of claim 20 wherein the configuration file is written in  
2        an extensible markup language.

1        25.    The computer system of claim 23 wherein the user system determines content  
2        of the user interface response.

1        26.    The computer system of 25 wherein the return file is presented as a browser  
2        interface.

1        27.    The computer system of claim 23 wherein the user interface specification and  
2        user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        28.    The computer system of claim 24 wherein the user interface specification and  
2        user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        29.    The computer system of claim 25 wherein the user interface specification and  
2        user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        30.    The computer system of claim 26 wherein the user interface  
2        specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1        31.    An apparatus for establishing an interface comprising:  
2        means for receiving a file by the application from a user system, wherein the  
3        file contains standardized interface data;  
4        means for providing the file to the service;  
5        means for generating a return file by the service, wherein the return file  
6        contains standardized interface data;

- 7 means for providing the return file to the application; and  
8 means for providing the return file to the user system.

1 32. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the return file is presented as a browser  
2 interface.

1 33. The apparatus of claim 31 further comprising:  
2 means for generating a dynamic user interface specification by the service;  
3 means for providing the dynamic user interface specification to application;  
4 means for generating a user interface response by the application; and  
5 means for providing the user interface response to the service.

1 34. The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the return file is presented as a browser  
2 interface.

1 35. The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the user system determines content of the  
2 user interface response.

1 36. The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the return file is presented as a browser  
2 interface.

1 37. The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the user interface specification and user  
2 interface response are written in a markup language.

1 38. The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the user interface specification and user  
2 interface response are written in a markup language.

1 39. The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the user interface specification and user  
2 interface response are written in a markup language.

1 40. The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the user interface specification and user  
2 interface response are written in a markup language.

1 41. A computer program product encoded in computer readable media, the  
2 computer program product comprising:  
3 a first set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to receive a  
4 file by the application from a user system, wherein the file contains  
5 standardized interface data;  
6 a second set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to provide  
7 the file to the service;  
8 a third set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to generate a  
9 return file by the service, wherein the return file contains standardized  
10 interface data;  
11 a fourth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to provide  
12 the return file to the application; and  
13 a fifth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to provide the  
14 return file to the user system.

1 42. The computer program product of claim 41 wherein the return file is presented  
2 as a browser interface.

1 43. The computer program product of claim 41 further comprising:  
2 a fifth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to generate a  
3 dynamic user interface specification by the service;  
4 a sixth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to provide the  
5 dynamic user interface specification to application;  
6 a seventh set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to generate a  
7 user interface response by the application; and  
8 an eighth set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to provide  
9 the user interface response to the service.

1 44. The computer program product of claim 40 wherein the configuration file is  
2 written in an extensible markup language.

1 45. The computer program product of claim 43 wherein the user system  
2 determines content of the user interface response.

1           46.     The computer program product of claim 45 wherein the return file is presented  
2 as a browser interface.

1           47.     The computer program product of claim 43 wherein the user interface  
2 specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1           48.     The computer program product of claim 44 wherein the user interface  
2 specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1           49.     The computer program product of claim 45 wherein the user interface  
2 specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

1           50.     The computer program product of claim 46 wherein the user interface  
2 specification and user interface response are written in a markup language.

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